

March 2015

## **BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**

### **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING CONTINUING COMPETENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR PHYSICAL THERAPISTS**

Please note that pursuant to Act 035 (SLH 2013), beginning with the December 31, 2016 renewal, each licensed physical therapist shall be required to obtain at least thirty units of approved continuing competence units ("CCUs") in each two-year license renewal period, where one continuing competence unit is equivalent to at least fifty minutes of classroom or hands on instruction. The CCUs must be taken during the two years prior (January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2016) to license renewal deadline of December 31, 2016. Physical Therapy Assistants are not required to complete CCUs for license renewal.

If your initial license was issued between January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015, you shall be required to obtain fifteen units of approved continuing competence units for the first renewal period. If your initial license was issued less than twelve months prior to the renewal date (January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016), no continuing competence units will be required for the first renewal period.

The Hawaii Board of Physical Therapy ("Board") is in the process of amending its administrative rules and is looking at the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy's ProCert, the Hawaii Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association, and courses and activities approved by other state boards. All of these changes must go through public hearings before they become official. If the courses you wish to take are already approved and/or certified by any of the above-mentioned entities, then unofficially Hawaii would accept them. The rule amendment process takes some time so if you plan to take courses prior to official approval, please remember the courses are subject to approval and you take the courses at your own peril.

The Board's current statutes and rules may be viewed on their website in their entirety:

[http://hawaii.gov/dcca/pvl/boards/physicaltherapy/statute\\_rules](http://hawaii.gov/dcca/pvl/boards/physicaltherapy/statute_rules)

Act 035 may be viewed on the Hawaii State Legislature's website:

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2013/bills/GM1135\\_.PDF](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2013/bills/GM1135_.PDF)